

INCREASED ARRIVALS.

Gloucester Harbor a Busy Place Last Year.

Crafts of All Kinds Coming Here Numbered 5702.

The record book of arrivals at the Custom House, shows that for the year ending December 31, 1903, there were 5702 arrivals at this port, against 5168 in the year 1904. The year in this department has been a busy one and Boarding Officer Charles O'Brien, under whose department this work comes, is proud of the increased showing made.

The record book shows that the arrivals were divided as follows:

- United States government crafts, 25.
- American steamers, 676.
- American towboats, 151.
- American barges, 69.
- American schooners, 4678.
- British schooners, 91.
- British steamers, 4.
- Italian barks, 5.
- Italian ships, 1.
- Norwegian barks, 1.
- American barks, 1.

Experiments in Clam Culture.

The experiment which the state fish and game commissioners are to make with clam culture over on Cape Ann will be viewed with a great deal of interest. There has been the theory in the minds of a number of people for a considerable length of time that clams could be farmed very successfully, but the state frowns upon private enterprises along this line, on the ground that if clams are privately raised there will be an interference with the market of the men now engaged in the business. Whether this is so or not we do not know, but if it is true, as has been claimed, that the supply of bivalves was diminishing, then the state, to be consistent must see that the clammers are provided with opportunities to ply their vocation.

To prevent private parties from entering the business because the state desires to protect the present clammers, and then to make no provision to aid the latter in the diminution of their supply would have been highly inconsistent. We presume the idea of the state is to augment the clam supply, as it does the supply of game birds, etc., and to this extent the movement is to be commended. As we have said the experiment will be watched with a great deal of solicitude by those who are interested in the business.—Newburyport News.

DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

To-day's Arrivals and Receipts.

Today's Fish Market.

These prices are based on the last known sales.

Salt handline Georges codfish, \$5.25 per cwt. for large, \$4.25 for medium.

Salt trawl Georges codfish, \$5 for large, .00 for medium.

Salt hake, \$1.75

Salt haddock, \$1.75.

Salt cusk, \$2.50.

Fresh haddock, \$1.20.

Salt trawl bank codfish, \$4.50 for large, \$4.00 for medium, \$2.75 for snappers.

Fresh halibut, 12 cts. per lb. for white and 8 cts. for gray.

Fresh pollock, 70 cts. per cwt.

Newfoundland salt herring, in bulk, \$4.50 per bbl.

Newfoundland salt herring, barrelled, \$5.75 per bbl.

Boston.

Sch. M. Madeleine, 1500 haddock, 12,000 cod.

Sch. Yankee, 8000 cod.

Sch. Juliette, 6000 pollock.

Sch. Mertis H. Perry, 3000 cod.

Sch. Fame, 35,000 haddock, 6000 cod, 2000 hake.

Sch. Senator, 25,000 haddock, 12,000 cod, 3000 hake.

Sch. Sylvia M. Nunan, 3500 haddock, 500 cod, 1000 hake.

Sch. Ellen F. Gleason, 7000 haddock, 6000 cod, 4000 hake.

Sch. Laura Enos, 4500 pollock.

Sch. Kernwood, 6500 haddock, 500 cod.

Haddock, \$2 to \$4.50; large cod, \$4.50 to \$5.50; market cod, \$2 to \$4; hake, \$3; pollock, \$3; cusk, \$2.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Lucania was at Shelburne on Saturday.

Herring Notes.

News from Eastport is to the effect that the weather was mild last week and that the large herring, suitable for freezing had about all left. A Gloucester vessel, with a crew of seven men, had been there two or three weeks after large herring and had got none.

MONSTER FARE.

Steamer Lands 260,000 Pounds Fresh Halibut.

Claimed To Be Biggest Halibut Fare on Record.

The fishing steamer San Juan, Capt. Welding, has arrived at Seattle, Wash., from southeastern Alaskan waters with what is declared to be the largest cargo of fresh halibut ever taken into that port. She brought some 260,000 pounds, her officers declaring that she had more of this fish aboard than was ever taken into any town or seaport in the world by one vessel. According to the Seattle Times the price of halibut is at present higher than it ever was. It is now ranging from one to one and a half cents per pound higher than it was at this time a year ago, and the demand is growing larger weekly.

Within a few days the steamer Marian will be dispatched to the halibut banks by the American Fish Company of Tacoma, in which Gloucester capital is interested, which intends to operate the craft regularly in the trade. The Marian is undergoing the necessary alterations to fit her for her new run, she having been recently purchased by the fish firm.

FREEZER FOR ST. PIERRE.

New French Concern Wants To Hear from Our Bankers.

U. S. Commercial Agent Freeman of St. Pierre, Miquelon, in making a report recently speaks of the society La Marine Franchise with headquarters at Paris. It has a paid up capital of \$579,000 and is organized by some of the big fish dealing firms and organized on lines of U. S. corporations. Beside conducting its fishing business at St. Pierre it is the intention of the society to build the coming season a bait refrigerator, and the manager, M. Louis Legasse, would like to hear from American manufacturers of refrigerator plants, with a view of placing an order. He would also like to hear from American bank fishermen in regard to making St. Pierre the baiting headquarters of the American fleet.

Three years of poor fisheries at St. Pierre have driven many small owners out of business, the number of vessels engaged in the bank fisheries having decreased, as also the people employed. This lack of employment has started many to seek for a livelihood elsewhere. It is estimated that 50 fishermen, with their families, have gone to Gloucester and other fishing ports in the United States, 25 to other parts of the United States, and 300 to Canada, principally Cape Breton.

FISH CAME BACK.

Were Shipped from Here Recently to Porto Rico.

The last number of Shipping Illustrated has the following note:

"As predicted in this column several weeks ago, the cargo of fish sent direct to Porto Rico from Gloucester arrived on a very low and falling market. The result was that the fish were shipped back to the exporters by steamer arriving in New York on Monday. Letters received stated that the fish could not be used in Porto Rico owing to the overstocked condition. It is doubtful if the Gloucester dealer will try the experiment again soon, considering what they will lose on this lot. The Porto Rico market is utterly demoralized, but other markets from which reports are at hand remain about the same as previously reported."

In regard to the sending back of the fish, the Fishing Gazette says:

"The experiment made by the Gloucester salt fish dealers of sending a schooner load of fish to the Porto Rico markets did not prove to be the success expected by them, most of the fish being returned to this country by steamer. In the future they will probably 'look before they leap.'"

Only a few weeks ago, the Gazette published a story of the shipping of fish direct from here to Porto Rico in the Margaret and remarked at the time that at last Gloucester was awakening, etc., in this direction. And now it picks it up the other way on the same matter. Well, it's hard to suit the Gazette.

Frozen Herring for New York.

The sch. Lucinda I. Lowell, with her cargo of frozen herring, sailed from here last evening for New York, where the fare will be disposed of.

FROM SECOND TRIP.

Steam Trawler Spray Arrived at Boston This Morning.

Was Out Ten Days and Has an Ordinary Fare.

The steam otter trawler Spray, Capt. H. Dexter Malone, arrived at T wharf, Boston, this morning from her second trip and hails for 40,000 lbs. of fresh haddock and 2000 pounds of fresh cod.

The craft sailed a week ago last Tuesday and has a very ordinary fare, and far from the 100,000 pounds which it was predicted she would have. Several of the off shore fishing vessels in the dock this morning have larger trips than the Spray, although this trip is an improvement over the first one.

MAIDEN TRIP.

Handline Sch. Teazer Went Long Way for Her Bait.

The pretty new sch. Teazer, Capt. Peter Dunskey, arrived here this morning from her maiden trip with \$25,000 lbs. of salted codfish. The new craft went a long way for her bait, going to Bay of Islands to secure it. She is engaged in the deck handline fishery and this is the farthest a vessel in this fishery has been for bait in recent years. Capt. Dunskey found fish scarce. Both he and his crew are delighted with their new craft and say she is all right.